

Urbanization, Ecology and Social Change in Assam: A Review on Historical Understanding

Mr. Palash Chetia

Assistant Prof., Department of History, Subansiri College (India)

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*Corresponding Author

Email: palashchetia28[at]gmail.com

ABSTRACT

It is intended to focus on the concept of the urbanization which came into mind of the human being. In fact, it form historical point of view that the man grabbing process toward urbanization assume as a ecological facts. It can be synopsised that some evident are intrinsically related with topography, water, production scope which has compelled to come the ideology of validity and sustenance. No history of a people or society can be properly reconstructed where the conception of the urbanization form. This topic will discuss some measures how to gradual development can help to focus the proper understanding. It is found that in the bank of big rivers, even the religious centers are brought in the ground of urbanization because of its ubiquitous expansion. Society has been intimately connected with environment and ecological change i.e. the stage of primitive, agrarian, or industrial and it has been present in one form or other. The first part of the topic will show historical and pragmatic understanding. In second, this will consist environmental change which is arguably the most pressing and potentially disastrous problem facing the global community at present. In third, pollution, global warming, species extinctions, and massive disruptions of critical ecosystems have compelled us to search this topic in our mind and in forth highlights the urbanization has been played a vital role in bringing out the change in society from one step to another. Lastly, It will draw some new conclusion to sustain nature and dynamics of migration to urban centers, slum problem, issues relating to urban poverty, residential pattern and employment opportunities.

1. Introduction

Presently the Govt. of India have implemented Chacha Bharat Mission, Make in India, Digital India, Starts up and Stand up India, Advantage Assam etc. due to fulfilling of mission India, 2020. Govt. also has been giving interest to expedite the urban and rural development to sustain social apparatus. In this case the respective authorities always go to way ahead for study of the ecology and environment. In fact, there are differences among the North East Indian with respect to their natural resources endowments level of facilities. The topic, it intends to focus on urbanization, ecology and social change within historical understanding. Though urbanization is a universal phenomenon, but in recent years it is a very curious discourse that whether it is 'panic' or 'peace'. In fact, the social scientists have seriously discussed about society and mankind shares a mutual interconnectedness that it has undergone changes with the passage of time. Such changes have been effected by societal dynamics that include the economic and the ecological transitions. In which context the concept of the urbanization came into mind of the human being. Form sociological point of view the man grabbing process toward urbanization was a ecological facts are intrinsically related with environment viz. topography, water, production scope which has compelled to come the ideology of validity and sustenance. No history of a people or society can be properly reconstructed where the conception of the urbanization form. Therefore, researcher has come to discuss some measures how to gradual development can help to focus the proper understanding. It is found that in the bank of big rivers, even the religious centers are brought in the ground of urbanization

because of its ubiquitous expansion. Society has been intimately connected with environment and ecological change i.e. the stage of primitive, agrarian, or industrial and it has been present in one form or other. From one age to the other, the foundations of various religions prescribed the proper form of worship and laid down the principles of moral conduct. Environmental change is arguably the most pressing and potentially disastrous problem facing the global community at present.

Pollution, global warming, species extinctions, and massive disruptions of critical ecosystems have compelled us to search this topic in our mind. Whereas western commentators tend to stress the doctrinal and ethical components of religion, in Asia, the emphasis is usually more on experience; ritual and prescriptive industrialization have been changing ecologically its concept. The rapid growth of urbanization and advancement of new technology has been changing the human settlement of the Earth. Urbanization is a very dominant factor for change in all sphere of life. It has already transformed the style of mankind. It has induced as the greater mobility from traditional villages to modern urban centers. The reason for such changes are traceable due to the advancement of science and technology i.e. industrialization as well as urbanization. This is why more and more people are lived in urban centers. So, it may be noted that urbanization has been played a vital role in bringing out the change in society from one step to another. The seminar aims to reflect on the pressing issues that emanate from the rapid growth of urbanization in India. Some of the issues which will be

pondered over and addressed in this seminar include: inequality in urban centers, nature and dynamics of migration to urban centers, slum problem, issues relating to urban poverty, residential pattern and employment opportunities.

The very word 'ecology' comes from the Greece word 'Oikos', which mean house and significantly it has the same Greek root as the economics from 'Oikonomos', the literal meaning is house hold manager. German biologist Ernest Haeckel who at first is coined the term ecology in 1868. He viewed that ecology as a body of knowledge, concerning with the economy of nature and highlighting its roots in economics and in evolutionary process. He also defined ecology as the study of all those complex inter-relations. Generally it is a web of inter-relationships among living organism in a particular ecological situation where adjustments of different organisms are co-related with fabric. But the rapid growth of populations in towns and cities has causing the ecological change. The deterioration of physical environment has been coupled with the crippled economy. In fact, social, economic and ecological deprivations are lying at the root of environmental problems and have lowered down the very quality of ecological synthesis. In our cities, we have found that a very high number of dependency ratio has already degrade the level of urban living. Urbanization always considered with the movement of people from rural areas to urban areas. Majority of new migrants and the large number of resident people have seriously been affected on physical and social environment. Thus it has spontaneously causing the imbalance towards the ecology where un-sustainability have been occurs. The deterioration of physical facilities, such as soil, air, water, climate, and other socio-economic infrastructures i.e. housing, education, custom, land use etc. have been positively and negatively change the city life. It cannot be defined that the technological advancement has bought the greater prosperity to mankind but on the other hand, the using of technological processes has also caused a greater injury to the ecology and society. In this regard, the researcher makes an attempt to study about ecological change due to the process of urbanization.

Assam is situated in the North-east corner of India flourished with hills and plains. The river Brahmaputra divided it as North bank and South bank. Moreover, the chronological formation of the society and geographical point of view Assam has two important parts as upper Assam and Lower Assam is an assimilating place of many culture, races, languages and religions which have largely moulded a unified cohesive cultural identity known as Assamese culture. Assam, the easternmost state of India, is the abode various important places where seemed many river-centric urban areas. But due to create a definite study researcher has chosen only two important municipal town of Upper Assam. The adverse impact of urbanization is related with the changes in ecological surrounding of towns. The ecological balance or imbalance has been occurring due to the population and technological development or economic growth in towns and cities. But nature has been very much related with the part of our social life. Like other parts of India, the interaction between human beings and their ecological fabrics are taking as an alarming turn in the towns of Assam also. Due to the over emphasis on

urbanization, it has threatening toward our nature and the human environment. Natural beauty is the spontaneous occurrence of nature. Nature himself preserved and conserved the beauty of the region. Therefore, this project is not only the concern of sociology but also it is concerned of environment and anthropologists. So, this synopsis shows an interdisciplinary impact.

2. Objectives of the study

- a) To analyze the change in population and occupational structure of towns.
- b) To find out the areas where changes are taking place.
- c) To study about the urbanization and health its important status of urban dwellers.
- d) To identify the causes of change in the study areas.

3. Review of Literature

Review of literature is an important part of any social science research. A brief and relevant review of literature of our research problem may be mentioned below- D. Souza (1968) in this study analyzed the social organization of modern urban community and encompasses the major areas of urban structure, such as kinship, class, caste, religion, occupational pattern and structure, educational opportunity, spatial structure, housing, migration and slums etc. has contribute then urban social environment. Kamara (1991) in this study analyzed the impact of urban growth on social change and he pointed out the urbanization is an important force of social change and the modern society is gradually transforming into an urbanized society. Gupta (1984) in his study on the role of migration in urbanization indicated that the rural to urban migration accounts for about onwe third of the decadal urban growth. Migration has been significant contribution towards the process of urbanization and ecological changes. Frank (1959) in his study stated that the relationship between demography and ecology. Pathak (1982) in his study observed that majority of the new migrants and larger number of residence people has seriously been affected by the deterioration in physical, human and economic environment. S. Srivastava and S. Shukla (2012) of their study of "Urbanization and Transformation of Rural Environment in Madhya Pradesh" have focus the impact of urbanization of the transformation of rural areas of India. They identified the environmental problems of the region and analyses the impact of urban growth, industrial relation, population charactisation, agricultural development and transformation on its environmental degeneration. In these ways a relevant review of literature is tried to be presented above.

4. Significant of Social Change:

The study will bear both theoretical and empirical significance, Firstly ecology is concerned with the broad setting of mans environment. According to ecological consideration human settlement is a dynamic process of adjustment of man and his ecology both are consisted. As a new ways of living or settlements adopted by man, new ecological systems have been formed. As we will discuss, urbanization is treated as one of the important sociological factors and its impact upon the character and composition of ecological system. It is more in keeping with modern emphasize to define it as the study of the

structure and function of people on nature. The urbanization concept was as gradual and universal process. The food economy was main cause for why people leaving their inhibition of the rural apparatus.

The unprecedented population growth in the city areas due to urbanization have brought the natural and man-made environments in to conflict to such a degree that not only is sound economic and social development non danger but also the physic, social, aesthetic and spiritual well being of man is jeopardize. It is within the human settlements, especially in town and city that the quality of mans ecological matters mostly reflected. Though man is basically an intruder in natural landscape but human development is influenced and signified by the rapid changes that are taking place in human setting. The rising of modern technology, industrial growth, expansion of cities and towns, migration and population growth, results in many ecological, social, and biological changes. Ecological change has been taking place in society from two distinct directions. One is that urbanization has its position impact on change /development and other one is that the negative impact of urbanizations has leading to many natural as well as social evils, corruption, social congestions, ecological degradation etc. It is true that urbanization has been radically transformed the basic structure and function of ecology of the society. It was proved from the various urban studies that have completed in India and suggest that urbanization does not necessarily change the traditional structural and functional forms of society. On the other hand it has serve the goals of modernization through new structural innovation in the spheres of urban growth and industrial development, transport and communication, leisure etc. In this study, we have tried to find out how urbanization has been increasingly changing the social as well as natural life of the urban people. Therefore, the significance of this project lies in this context.

5. Major findings of Topic

1. Polity and its interconnectedness with history and environment
2. Urbanization and environments and sustainable development,

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3. Role of value based education in assessment of urbanization and environment
4. Emergence of urban centres in India: Past and Present
5. Factors associated with the issue of ethnic identity in Assamese acculturation.
6. Role of the elites and in political mobilization to the fragmentary structure.
7. Global Warming, Natural Resource and conservation of bio-diversity
8. More preference to the communal thinking, neglected for the peripheral mass.
9. Minimum innovative interest, threat to integrated pest management programme
10. Remedial measures to combat with the problem of Eco-Feminism and Religion
11. Urban Issues: Migration, urban planning, urban Governance, Tourism
12. Urban Challenges: Logistic Problems, Transport, Environmental Concerns

6. Conclusions

From the above all it is found that the present society has been impacted in the positive manner for which it can be shown on local community including demographic change includes to cope the indoctrination. The recent fragmented societies are impacted by economic sustainability, their validity and status in the over the years. To form the ethnic clusters in the respective areas some communities has been bewildered their micro-perspectives character to macro in case of lineage, state and social apparatus. Urbanization, environmental planning and physiographical problems are also encompassing in the promoting specific measures in the present context. Good day will come when the societies understand the prospects of urbanization produces in the ground of radical changes in the basic pattern of living environment. It is neither unique nor exclusive, but it is similar to a world-wide phenomenon and a part and product of economic change, occupational shift from agriculture to urban-based industry and services is more essential to cope major problems in the way ahead to development.